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Dear Friends,

As you may know, earlier this year I teamed up with Congressman Ron Paul of Texas to introduce H.R. 156, the [Stop the Congressional Pay Raise Act](#), and block a \$4,700 automatic pay raise for members of Congress in 2010. We believed it was unconscionable for Congress to give itself a raise when so many hardworking Americans are struggling to make ends meet. I'm proud to say that we were successful and [we stopped the automatic pay raise](#).

I wanted to let you know that I am joining Congressman Paul again, this time to bring more transparency to the government's role in the financial system.

Last week, I cosponsored H.R. 1207, [The Federal Reserve Transparency Act of 2009](#), which Congressman Paul introduced to shed some much-needed light on the often secret policymaking process at the Federal Reserve.

The Fed acts as the nation's central bank – they're in charge of formulating monetary policy, supervising and regulating banks, and providing services to financial institutions and the federal government. All of these critical functions are conducted behind closed doors.

This is troubling.

While the nation recovers from economic downturn and Americans work to rebuild our economy, they deserve an honest assessment of what role the Fed plays in the financial system. This bill is an important step in being able to make that assessment.

If you have any questions or comments on this or any other legislation, please do not hesitate to [contact me](#).

Sincerely,

P.S. You can also follow me on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [YouTube](#).

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If you wish to contact me, please do so at <http://mitchell.house.gov>. Please **do NOT reply** to this message.

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